

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 091273

P 290915Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2439

S E C R E T SINGAPORE 1775

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ MILI, SN, VS

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF VNAF C-130'S IN SINGAPORE

REFS: (A) STATE 097380; (B) SINGAPORE 1717

1. I HAVE INFORMED ACTING PRIME MINISTER GOH OF OUR LEGAL POSITION CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE C-130'S AS SET FORTH REF A. SENIOR MINDEF OFFICIAL TAY SEOW HUAH INFORMALLY ADVISED DCM GOS WOULD PROBABLY TURN OVER IN NEXT DAY OR TWO TO USG THE C-130 WHICH BROUGHT THE 56 REFUGEES TO SINGAPORE SINCE GOS HAD PROMISED THE PLANE WOULD BE RETURNED AS SOON AS THE REFUGEES LEFT. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT WITH RESPECT TO THE REMINING FIVE C-130'S BEING RECONDITIONED AT LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT SERVICE (LASS) GOS WOULD HAVE TO STUDY OUR LEGAL POSITION VERY CAREFULLY. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY SERIOUS PROBLEM. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO GOS THAT WE SEE NO LEGAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE C-130 WHICH BROUGHT IN THE REFUGEES AND THE REMAINING FIVE AT LASS.

2. IN VIEW OF RAPIDLY CHANGING SITUATION IN VIETNAM AND POSSIBILITY PRO-COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE OVER IN NEXT FEW DAYS, RECOMMEND I BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE FORMAL CLAIM OF OWNERSHIP AND REPOSSESS ALL SIX AIRCRAFT SOONEST. IF GOS CONCURS, DAO AND LASS ARE PREPARED TO OBLITERATE VNAF MARKINGS ON AIRCRAFT AND REPLACE THEM WITH USG MARKINGS. ONCE MARKINGS ARE CHANGED DAO WILL ARRANGE THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS FOR AIR CREWS TO FLY TO SINGAPORE AND REMOVE THE C-130'S AS SOON AS THEY

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ARE IN PROPER CONDITION TO FLY.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT DETENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SINGAP01775  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750149-0979  
**From:** SINGAPORE  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975047/aaaaaged.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 097380, 75 SINGAPORE 1717  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2003  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DISPOSITION OF VNAF C-130'S IN SINGAPORE  
**TAGS:** MILI, SN, VS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006